

What is claimed is:

1. A kit for obtaining polynucleotides from the skin, the kit comprising:

a cell collection device selected from the group consisting of a rigid surface and an adhesive tape; and

a cell lysis buffer suitable of preserving polynucleotides or a computer chip suitable for preserving polynucleotides.
2. The kit of claim 1, which further comprises an mRNA detection reagent.
3. A kit for distinguishing an irritant reaction from an allergic reaction, the kit comprising a cell collection device, a cell lysis buffer, an mRNA detection reagent.

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